

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A light source comprising a microstructured optical element that receives and spectrally spreads the light from a primary light source, characterized in that the spectrally spread light traverses at least one further microstructured optical element.
2. (original) The light source as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and/or the further microstructured optical element contains photonic band gap material.
3. (currently amended) The light source as claimed in ~~either of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and/or the further microstructured optical element are/is designed as optical fiber(s).
4. (original) The light source as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and/or the further microstructured optical element have/has a taper (tapered fiber).
5. (original) The light source as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and the further microstructured optical element merge into one another continuously.
6. (currently amended) The light source as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and/or the further microstructured optical element are/is a photonic crystal fiber (microstructured fiber, holey fiber).
7. (currently amended) The light source as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that the microstructured optical element and the further microstructured optical element are spliced together.
8. (currently amended) The light source as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that the light that emerges from the microstructured optical element can be coupled into the further microstructured optical element with the aid of a lens arrangement.